VAN POOLE PROPERTIES GROUP

THE LOCAL LIST / HOLIDAY 2026

Oh, what fun!

Your DFW holiday bucket list

18 ways to see the lights & make a little merry.



Dallas Zoo Lights / promotional photo, past season

A little holiday sparkle

Holiday at the Arboretum

Dallas / Ticketed

Nov. 11 - Jan. 3

One last chance to enjoy the 12 Days of Christmas gazebos, plus the Christmas Village and decorated DeGolyer House.

Dallas Zoo Lights

Dallas / Ticketed

Select nights, Nov. 13 - Jan. 3

An after-dark stroll through glowing displays and animal sculptures. Walk-through only; most animals are asleep.

ICE! & Lone Star Christmas

Grapevine / Ticketed

Nov. 13 - Jan. 3

Harry Potter comes to ICE! at Gaylord Texan. Add ice tubing or gingerbread decorating for even more fun.

The Trains at NorthPark

Dallas / Ticketed

Nov. 14 - Jan. 3

Tiny trains, big holiday smiles. This Dallas tradition benefits Ronald McDonald House Dallas.

Holidays at Galleria Dallas

Dallas / Free + paid options

Dates vary by activity

Skate around the Christmas tree, visit Santa, or strike a pose at SNOWDAY. Pick your favorite festive stop.

Meet you at the tree lighting

Cowboys Christmas Extravaganza

Frisco / Free

Fri. & Sat., Nov. 20 - Dec. 19 | 6 p.m.

Cowboys performers, Santa, and a dazzling tree lighting. Stay for dinner at The Star.

Christmas in the Square

Frisco / Free

Nov. 20 - Jan. 4 | 6-10 p.m.

Lights dance to music across Frisco Square. Watch from your car or take a stroll; skating costs extra.

Southlake Tree Lighting

Southlake / Free

Nov. 21 | 4:30-8:30 p.m.

Santa photos, a snow hill, and fireworks! The Town Square tree lights up at 6 p.m.

GM Financial Parade of Lights

Fort Worth / Free

Nov. 22 | 6 p.m.

Illuminated floats, marching bands, and Santa roll through downtown. Reserved seats available for purchase.

Start a new tradition.

Tap an event for details & booking.

Love where you live.

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Checked Nov. 11, 2026. January dates are in 2027. Confirm tickets, hours, parking & weather before you go.

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THE LOCAL LIST / HOLIDAY 2026

Let it glow!

Pick a night. Grab your people. Go make a memory.



Dallas Zoo Lights / promotional photo, past season

All is bright

Prairie Lights

Grand Prairie / Per vehicle

Nov. 26 - Dec. 31 | Opens 6 p.m.

A two-mile drive at Lynn Creek Park, plus a stop at Holiday Village for rides, treats, and a glowing forest.

Gift of Lights

Fort Worth / Per vehicle

Nov. 26 - Jan. 3

Holiday playlist on, car loaded up. Cruise the glowing tunnels and displays at Texas Motor Speedway.

Deerfield Holiday Lights

Plano / Free

Dec. 1-30 | 7-10 p.m.; weekends to 11

A Plano neighborhood that goes all out. Visit on a weeknight; plan restroom stops before you arrive.

Highland Park Lights

Highland Park / Free

Seasonal; displays vary

Hot cocoa and a neighborhood lights drive. For an extra-special night, reserve a paid carriage ride or tour.

Christmas in the Garden

Fort Worth / Ticketed

Opens Nov. 20; see ticket calendar

A glowing garden trail, the Winter Cathedral, and Santa's Village. Book a timed entry and linger under the lights.

Make a day (or date) of it

Christmas Capital of Texas

Grapevine / Free + paid options

Holiday events begin Nov. 23

Main Street lights and local shops. Carol of Lights: Nov. 23; parade: Dec. 3. North Pole Express runs select dates.

Home for the Holidays

McKinney / Free

Nov. 27-29

Shop the historic square, enjoy holiday music, and visit Santa. Friday tree lighting: 6:15 p.m. Some extras cost more.

Holiday Tea at The French Room

Dallas / Reserve ahead

Nov. 4 - Jan. 10

Dress up for three courses of tea-time treats at The Adolphus. Reserve ahead; check holiday closures.

Winter Village at The Adolphus

Dallas / Reserve ahead

Opens Nov. 13

Cozy rooftop chalets, cabanas, seasonal drinks, and curling. Check current rental options before booking.

Check it off. Do it again next year.

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